

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 16903 01 OF 02 301719Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-10 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00

OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0831

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 16903

PASS: USDA/FAS FOR WITCHER, IOA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR OECD

SUBJECT: WP NO. 1 (COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE MEETING,
JUNE 23-25, 1975

1. SUMMARY: LEGER (FRANCE) ELECTED AS 1 OF 2 CO-EQUAL VICE CHAIRMEN. "LAND USE, GENERAL REPORT" DISCUSSED, SECRETARIAT TO SUBMIT REVISED REPORT IN FALL. WORK PLAN FOR PART-TIME FARMING STUDY ENVISAGES CHAPTERS ON SELECTED COUNTRIES INCLUDING US; SEE PARS 7 AND 5 RE ACTION REQUESTED. FALL MEETING TO CONSIDER CHANGES IN US AGRICULTURAL POLICY UNDER 1973 LEGISLATION. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN POPP (SWITZERLAND); AGENDA ADOPTED (AGR/WP1/A(75)2). LEGER (FRANCE) ELECTED AS 1 OF 2 CO-EQUAL VICE CHAIRMEN. (THAT ELECTION HAD BEEN POSTPONED AT MARCH 17-19, 1975 MEETING AT THE REQUEST OF THE IRISH DELEGATE SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE EC MEMBER COUNTRIES.)

3. SUMMARY RECORD OF MARCH 17-19, 1975 MEETING APPROVED
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PAGE 02 OECD P 16903 01 OF 02 301719Z

(AGR/WP1(75)3).

4. DISCUSSION OF "LAND USE, GENERAL REPORT" (AGR/WP1 (75)4) DURING 4 HALF-DAYS (OVER 11 HOURS) SHOWED WEAKNESSES IN REPORT. WEAKNESSES RANGED FROM POOR TRANSLATION OF FRENCH ORIGINAL INTO ENGLISH TO INCONSISTENCIES AND OVERSIMPLIFICATION IN LAND USE CLASSIFICATION. WP DIRECTED RESUBMISSION OF REVISED REPORT AT NEXT MEETING. OF SPECIFIC INTEREST TO USDA MAY BE CANADIAN DEL R.W. CROWN'S COMMENT TO PAR.108 THAT "ZONING" IN ITS SPECIFICITY WAS AN URBAN CONCEPT. THIS INDUCED US DEL (HIRSCH) TO POINT OUT THAT USDA EXPERTS WHO HAD

ATTENDED DECEMBER 3-6, 1974 MEETING AND CONTRIBUTED TO "LAND USE, BRIEF NOTES" (AGR(75)4) ALSO HAD SOME DIFFICULTY WITH "ZONING" AS TREATED IN THE GENERAL REPORT. HE THEREFORE REQUESTED THAT THE CANADIAN VIEWPOINT AND THAT DEVELOPED IN BERG'S PAPER BE REFLECTED IN THE REVISED GENERAL REPORT.

5. DRAFT OUTLINE AND PROCEDURE FOR STUDY ON PART-TIME FARMING (AGR/WP1(75)7) DISCUSSED. AS MENTIONED IN PAR. 13 OF OUTLINE, SECRETARIAT WANTS A US CHAPTER AS 1 OF 6 COUNTRY CHAPTERS, SUGGESTED THAT IT DRAFT THESE CHAPTERS ITSELF, SEND THEM TO COUNTRIES CONCERNED AND CONSULT WITH EXPERTS THERE. CHAIRMAN PRESSED FOR ASKING EXPERTS IN COUNTRIES SELECTED TO DRAFT COUNTRY CHAPTERS. SECRETARIAT (RAIDL) EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE FOR FEAR THAT DEADLINES MAY NOT BE KEPT, BUT ALSO MENTIONED AVAILABILITY OF LIMITED FUNDS TO ENGAGE CONSULTANTS AND CALLED FOR WORK COMMITMENT BEFORE SUMMER VACATION (I.E. WITHIN ONE MONTH). COMMENT: THIS SEEMS TO PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW A LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY PERSON INTO

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PAGE 01 OECD P 16903 02 OF 02 301717Z

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OECD WORK.

6. NEXT MEETING SOME TIME BETWEEN OCTOBER AND EARLY DECEMBER WITH CONSIDERATION OF REVISED LAND USE REPORT, EXAMINATION OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY CHANGES IN US UNDER THE 1973 LEGISLATION AND POSSIBLE SIMILAR EXAMINATION OF PENDING CANADIAN LEGISLATION TO STABILIZE FARMERS RETURNS. SECRETARIAT WOULD PREPARE A SHORT PAPER ON US TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR EXAMINATION. REFERENCE MADE TO NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY REGARDING AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING. NEW PROJECT ON POLICY ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION MAY REQUIRE SOME CONSIDERATION. CHAIRMAN PRESSED FOR A JOINT MEETING OF WP NO. 1 WITH COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE TO CONSIDER STUDY ON LONG-TERM TRENDS IN SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF MAJOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AFTER THAT STUDY HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO XCSS; BUT PREVAILING ATTITUDE WAS THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS COULD CONSIDER THE INTEREST OF THEIR WP NO. 1 DELEGATES WHEN THEY DECIDE WHOM TO SEND TO THE COMM FOR AGR MEETING WHICH WILL CONSIDER THAT STUDY. FINALLY, SECRETARIAT (RAIDL) MENTIONED THAT 5 PROJECTS (4 OF THESE RESULTING FROM COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL) MAY REQUIRE STAFF WORK, VIZ. (1) "NORTH-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 OECD P 16903 02 OF 02 301717Z

SOUTH HIGH LEVEL GROUP, (2) COMMODITIES GROUP, (3) GROWTH GROUP (BASED ON KISSINGER PROPOSAL), (4) JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR POLICY ORIENTED, LONGER-TERM RESEARCH PROJECT WITH FOCUS ON RELATIONS WITH LDCS, AND (5) RESEARCH COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE (A REFERENCE TO US FOOD PROPOSAL TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL).

7. ACTION REQUESTED: USDA TO DECIDE HOW TO HANDLE US ROLE IN PART-TIME-FARMING PROJECT AS OUTLINED IN PARA. 5. TURNER

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